

Message Text

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47

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-05 L-02

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FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7001

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMCONSUL ADANA

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

AMCONSUL IZMIR

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, TU

SUBJ: PUBLIC OPINION AND THE GOVERNMENT CRISIS

1. AS TIME APPROACHES FOR VOTE OF CONFIDENCE ON IRMAK GOVERNMENT (SEPTTEL), WIDE RANGE OF TURKISH OPINION LEADERS ARE EXPRESSING VIEW (SUBTLY OR OTHERWISE) THAT SOLUTION TO PRESENT GOVERNMENT CRISIS MUST BE FOUND QUICKLY AND IT IS UP TO PARLIAMENT AND THE POLITICAL PARTIES TO WORK THEIR WAY OUT OF A PROBLEM FOR WHICH THEY ARE IN LARGE PART RESPONSIBLE.

2. IN A RADIO-TV ADDRESS NOV. 26, PRESIDENT KORUTURK RECALLED THE PROPOSALS MADE BY PARTY LEADERS AT THEIR NOV. 11 MEETING WITH HIM WHICH LED TO HIS DESIGNATION OF SADI IRMAK TO FORM A GOVERNMENT AND THE SUBSEQUENT DECISION BY THE MAJOR PARTIES NOT TO PARTICIPATE IN THE IRMAK GOVERNMENT. THE KORUTURK ADDRESS APPARENTLY IS A PUBLIC CHIDING OF THE PARTIES FOR FAILURE TO LIVE UP TO THEIR PROMISES AT THE TIME AND REPRESENTS AN EFFORT BY THE PRESIDENT TO GO DIRECTLY TO THE PEOPLE. HE CONCLUDED HIS ADDRESS BY ANNOUNCING THAT HE WAS SENDING THE RECORDED MINUTES OF

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THE NOV. 11 MEETING TO THE PARTY LEADERS AND EXPRESSED HIS

ASSURANCE THAT, IN LIGHT OF THESE MINUTES, THE PARTIES WOULD
MAKE THE "RIGHT DECISION."

3. TURK-IS (TURKEY'S LARGEST LABOR FEDERATION), WHICH HAD EARLIER
THREATENED TO CALL A ONE-DAY GENERAL STRIKE IN PROTEST AGAINST THE
INABILITY OF THE PARTIES TO FORM A GOVERNMENT, IN A NOV. 25
STATEMENT CALLED ON PARTIES EITHER TO FORM A GOVERNMENT BASED ON
PARLIAMENT OR TAKE ADVANTAGE OF ALTERNATIVE TO SOLVE THE
GOVERNMENT CRISIS BY SUPPORTING THE IRMAK GOVERNMENT.

4. NEWSPAPER COLUMNISTS IN BOTH THE INDEPENDENT AND PARTISAN
PAPERS IN THE LAST WEEK HAVE DWELT ON THE THEME THAT IT IS UP TO THE
PARTIES TO EXTRICATE THEMSELVES FROM THE MESS THEY CREATED. THE
WRITERS STRESS THAT TURKEY IS NOW IN A CRITICAL PERIOD WITH
MAJOR FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC PROBLEMS THAT REQUIRE URGENT ATTENTION
AND THAT CONTINUED DILLY-DALLYING ON THE GOVERNMENT QUESTION WILL
DISCREDIT BOTH THE PARLIAMENT AND THE PARTIES.
MACOMBER

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